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A TRUE TESTIMONY From the People of God:

(Who by the world are called QUAKERS)

OF THE

Doctrines of the *Prophets*, *Christ*, and the *Apostles*, which is witnessed unto, by them who are now raised up by the same *Power*, and quickned by the same *Spirit* and *Blood* of the *Everlasting Covenant*, which brought again our *LORD JESUS* from the dead.

Published for this End, (Viz.)

That all sober minded People may see the *Unity* and *Agreement* of our *Doctrine* and *Testimony*, with the *Testimony* of *Jesus*, and all the *Holy Men of God*.

With the Difference between *Us*, and *Them* that have the *Form* of Words, but not the *Power* thereof.

Prove all things, and hold fast that which is good, 1 Thes. 5.21.
Now we have received not the SPIRIT *which is of the world, but the* SPIRIT *which is of God; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God*, 1 Cor. 10.12.

By *M. F.*

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The Epistle to the Reader.

FRIEND,

BEing that the day of the Lord is come, and he arisen in his Eternal Light, and is arising in the Consciences of Men, the place where his Throne and Scepter must Rule the Nations; and being that he is King, and Lord and Lawgiver to those who are under his Government, and is the supreme Head and Judge in the Consciences: Now this being arisen and manifested in this day of the Lord's Power, in the which he will make all his People willing and subject to him; and being that this hath been long obscured and covered with the thick vail of darkness, and Cloud of Apostacy that hath been over the face of the Earth, and indeed over the hearts of men, and the onely cause and reason of this, hath been the Cup of Abomintaion and Fornication the Nations have drunk in the Worship of the Beast, upon which the Whore sits, which John saw (when he stood upon the Sand of the Sea) rise up out of the Sea, which all the world wondered after; insomuch, that Mystery Babylon the Great made all Nations drunk with the Cup of her Fornication: And now the day is come, that Babylon is come up in remembrance with the Lord, and the Day of her Judgements is come, and the Vials are pouring upon the Seat and Head of the Beast; and the darkness is expelling, and the Light is arising out of obscurity, and shining secretly in the hearts of People, where Gods appeareance and Manifestation is, where he writes his Law, and puts his Spirit in the inward parts, which is the new Covenant which he hath made with the House of Israel, and with the House of Judah, and which is also a Light to the Gentiles, by which they can do the things contained in the Law, having the substance of the Law, which is Light, written in their Hearts, their Consciences also bearing them witness of the Justice and Righteousness of the Law, when God comes to judge the secrets of their hearts by Jesus Christ, who is the end of the Law for

Righteousness

Righteouſneſs, and who is the Light that is given to be the ſalvation to the ends of the Earth.

And now all people that comes to be guided by this Law, which is Light, they by ſo doing comes into Gods Covenant and Promiſe; and coming into this Light, and Covenant, and Spirit which God puts in the inward parts, here all people meet together, Jews *and* Gentiles, Barbarian, Scithian, Bond *and* Free, *in the Unity of the Spirit which is in* Chriſt Jeſus *our Lord, in which they come to be all one in Chriſt; & if they be Chriſt's, then are they* Abraham's *Seed, & Heirs according to promiſe: Gal.* 3.29. *This is the great Myſtery that hath bin hid from* Ages *and* Generations *paſt, by reaſon of the groſs Darkneſs that hath covered men; and the great cauſe and reaſon of all this, hath been becauſe the* Worſhip *that hath been ſet up in the* Nations, *hath had its* Foundation *in the* Darkneſs, *& the very root & ground of it hath been Darkneſs it ſelf, and the* Teachers *and* Miniſters *thereof, have been* Miniſters *of Darkneſs, and have not turned people from the darkneſs to the Light, but on the contrary have drawn them from the Light and Spirit of God within them, unto their Inventions, Imaginations, Meanings, and Expoſitions of the Scriptures without them, and ſo have been building* Babel *in the many* Languages, *which God is coming to confound; and it may be they have read a Chapter, and then turn and pervert it, and mix with it their own dark imaginations of their evil hearts; and again read a verſe of a Chapter, and make an hours Diſcourſe of what they had intended and hatched up in their minds (it may be) a week before. And thus they have fed poor people with Chaff and Husks; but the* Lord *is ariſen in his mighty Power, with his Fan in his hand, and he is ſeperatiug the Chaff from the Wheat, and is gathering the Wheat into his Garner, and will burn up the Chaff with unquenchable fire.*

And now Reader, *in ſoberneſs and ſingleneſs of thy heart, read this following Treatiſe without an evil eye, and a prejudiced mind; and let the Truth of God have place in thy heart, and let the light of Chriſt in thy Conſcience ſeriouſly judge and weigh the things therein contained, and (according to the Scriptures) prove all things, and hold faſt that which is good; and look not at Men, nor at the Times as they ſtand in relation to men, for in ſo doing, the god of the world will blind the eye; but look at the Lord, and at his Truth; and eye his dealing and diſpenſation of his will according to his wiſdom, and let*

him be thy fear, and let him be thy dread, and ſlight not thy Day of Viſitation of his love; For truly the Lord whom we ſeek, will ſuddenly come to his Temple, and who may abide the day of his coming? who will ſift as a Refiners fire, and will be as Fullers Soap. Certainly he will plead with all fleſh by Sword and by Fire, and bring into the Valley *of* Jehoſaphat, *and all fleſh will be as graſs, and the glory thereof as the Flower of the Field, when the ſpirit of the Lord blows upon it, becauſe all People are Graſs. It is not fleſh and blood that can enter into the Kingdom of God, which he is now reſtoring unto* Iſrael; *it is that, that will paſs the fire of his jealouſie, and come through clear and pure, that will be accepted of in this his day; People have long made him ſerve with their ſins, and wearyed him with their Iniquity, and their Worſhips and Services have been an abomination unto him; and the fear that hath been taught towards him, hath been by the precepts of men, and fleſh and blood hath performed the Worſhip that ſhould have been to him, and therefore hath there been no entrance into the Kingdom of God, but all have been kept back, and out of the holy City, though the Gates have ſtood open by Day, yet no unclean could enter, nor nothing that wrought abomination, or made a lye, for that is in the Night of darkneſſe, and is out of the Day where the Gates of the holy City ſtands open.*

*And ſo now (*Reader*) theſe things being ſet before thee in love unto thee and to all people; ſlight them not, nor look not lightly over them; for if thou ſeriouſly conſider and weigh them with that of God in thy Conſcience, thou wilt finde them truth, and according to the Scriptures of Truth: Therefore ſearch and examine the following Treatiſe by the Scriptures and the Spirit of Truth, and thou wilt find that in thy own boſom which will anſwer to the Truth of what is here written. So to the Lord I commit thee, and to his witneſſe in thee which will anſwer for his Truth.*

M. F.

A true TESTIMONY, &c.

To all the profeſſed Teachers *in the whole world, who go under the Name of* Chriſtians, *and make a* profeſſion *of Chriſt, who was offered up at* Jeruſalem, *which the Scriptures declares of, whether they be* Jeſuits, *Biſhops,* Prieſts, Proteſtants, Presbyters, Independents, Anabaptiſts, *and to all* ſorts *of* Sects *and* Sectaries *whatſoever; This unto you all, to* prove, *or* diſprove *the* Doctrine *of the* QUAKERS, *which is the ſame with* Chriſt, *the* Apoſtles, *and* Prophets; *which doth prove* your Doctrine *to be* falſe, *and out of the* Doctrine of Chriſt.

YOur *Teſtimony* which ye do bear of the coming of Chriſt (who are called Chriſtians by Name) is onely the *Letter* of the *Scriptures*, becauſe that there are Records left of *Chriſts words* which he ſpoke in the *Mount*, and which he ſpoke at *Jeruſalem*, and at *Samaria*, and which he preached among the *multitude*, and the many Miracles that he wrought, and what he ſpoke to the *Souldiers* when he was *apprehended*, and what he ſpoke before the *High Prieſt* and *Pontius Pilate*, and what he ſpoke when he was *upon the Croſs*. The Diſciples having written of his Preaching, and of his Miracles that he wrought, and of his Sufferings, thoſe Writings are your Teſtimony of *Chriſt*. And again, the *Apoſtles* after they had received the holy Ghoſt, and Power from above, when *Chriſt* was offered up and aſcended, the *Apoſtles* having received *his Eternal Spirit*, and they going on in the work of God, converted thouſands to the Faith, and did great and wonderful Works and Miracles by the Spirit of *Chriſt* which they had received, and they travelled up and down in ſeveral parts of the World, and turned Peo-

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ple *from Darkneſs to the Light, and from the power of Satan unto God*; and there was a Record of their *Works*, *Service*, and *Actions*, which are called, *The Acts of the Apoſtles*, which do teſtifie of ſeveral remarkable *Works*, *Actions*, and *Converſions*, that were wrought by them through the *Eternal Spirit*. And after they had gathered ſeveral *Churches* and *People* into the unity of the Eternal Light and Spirit of God, and had begotten many into the faith, which could bear witneſs in the Spirit of God of the Eternal Truth which they had received through the Doctrine of the Spirit.

Now the *Apoſtles* when they were ſeparated, and at a diſtance from thoſe *Churches*, they wrote ſeveral *Epiſtles* to the *Saints*, that were *gathered* and *ſanctified* in *Chriſt Jeſus*, and made partakers of the precious Faith, & ſuch as were called to be *Saints*; the *Apoſtles* wrote not their *Epiſtles* to the *world*, nor to ſuch as were *not gathered* by them, neither *Iews* nor *Gentiles*, but *to the Churches of Chriſt*, ſanctified in *Chriſt Ieſus*, called *to be Saints*, of what *ſort* or *denomination* ſoever they were, or *went under*, whether *Corinthians*, *Epheſians*, *Romans*, *Galatians*, *&c.*

Now the *Apoſtacy* and *Darkneſs* coming over, and the *falſe Apoſtles* getting up, being erred and gone from the *Spirit*, and turned aſide from the *life* and *power*, of the *purity* and *innocency* that the *Apoſtles* were in, and turning out of the *Light* of the *glorious Goſpel* which was in them, the darkneſs came over them, and the *Antichriſtian Spirit* entred in amongſt them; for the Apoſtle *John* ſaw in his time, that *Antichriſt* was come and entred into the World, whereby he ſaid, *He knew it was the laſt time*, & that there were many *Antichriſts* already; & he knew it was the time that Chriſt had propheſied of, *That falſe Prophets ſhould come in ſheeps cloathing, but inwardly were ravening Wolves*, ravened and erred from the *Spirit of Truth*, which was *in* the *true Apoſtles*, and ſo did deceive many, that even darkneſs covered the face of the Earth, and all was loſt, and the *Beaſt* roſe out of *the Sea*, and out of the *Earth*, and all the *World* wondred after them, and *fell down*, and *worſhipped* the *Beaſt*, and *Antichriſt*, and his *Power*, and ſo all *Nations* were made *drunk* with his *Cup* of *Fornication* and *Abomination*;

Yet

Yet this was not *unseen* nor *undiscover'd* before it came; For *Christ* propheſied of it, *That falſe Chriſts and Antichriſts would come in the later dayes, Wolves in ſheepes clothing would come, and by their fruits you ſhould know them*, *Mat.*7.15. And the Apoſtle *Paul* he knew *that grievous Wolves would enter in amongſt them after his departure, that would not ſpare the flock*, *Acts* 20.29. And *Peter* he was ſenſible of *falſe Prophets* that was amongſt the People, & did alſo *foretell* of *falſe Teachers that ſhould privily bring in damnable Hereſies, even denying the Lord that bought them*; and he alſo ſaw, *that many would follow their pernicious ways, and that through Covetouſneſs they with feigned words would make Merchandice of People*; and *Timothy* ſaw *that in the laſt Dayes perilous Times ſhould come, that men ſhould bee lovers of themſelves, having a form of godlineſs*, but *denying* the power; *from ſuch turn away*, ſaith the *Apoſtle*; for of theſe ſort are *they which creep into houſes* (calling them Churches) *and leads captive ſilly women, laden with ſin, and led away with diverſe luſts*; *ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the Truth. Now as* Jannes *and* Jambres *withſtood* Moſes, *ſo do theſe alſo reſiſt the Truth: Men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.* And again, the ſame *Apoſtle* ſaith, *That the time would come, when the people would not endure ſound doctrine; but after their own luſts would heap to themſelves Teachers, having itching ears, & they would turn away their ears from the Truth, & ſhould be turned unto Fables.* Now all theſe ſeeing that this *Apoſtacy* would come, This is *a certain teſtimony* that it was *to come*, and *is come*, and hath over-ſpread the face of the earth *ſince the Apoſtles daies*, as hath been clearly manifeſted by the many *Heads* and *Horns* of the *Beaſt*, and of the *Dragon*; and the many *Religions* and *Sects* that have ſtarted up ſince the daies of the *Apoſtles*; and as one *got up*, another was *pull'd down*; And now *the blind people* that have been nurſed up *in blindneſs*, and *darkneſs*, and *ignorance*, under this cloud of *Apoſtacy*; Now when that the *Truth* is manifeſted, and riſen through this *Darkneſs* and *Apoſtacy*, and they ſeeing that the Scripture ſpeaks of *falſe Prophets*, they ſay, the *falſe Prophets* are but com'd *now*; and they call the *Spirit of Truth* the *falſe Prophet*, becauſe it *bears teſtimony* againſt the *falſe worſhips* in the World. But I would ask ſuch people, which of theſe

Sects

Sects, or *Heads*, or *Horns* that have been up since the daies of the *Apostles*, which of them they look upon to be the *true Prophets*? Whether it is the Pope, *Luther*, or *Calvin*? or which other of the *old Fathers* (so called) or *Bishops* and *Presbyters*, *Independents* or *Anabaptists*? for all these have *been*, and have had *their Time* in this *Apostacy*, and have gotten the Writings of the *Prophets*, *Christ*, and the *Apostles*, and so have all had *the Form of godliness*, *but denyed the Power of godliness*, according to the prophesie of the Apostle *Peter*, who said, *There were false Prophets among the people, even as there should be false Teachers among them, which should bring in damnable Heresies, and that they should receive the reward of unrighteousness, who have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam, who loved the wages of unrighteousness*, which the Apostle *Jude* said, *Whose mouths must be stopt, who subvert whole Houses, teaching things they ought not for filthy lucre sake; who serves not the Lord Jesus Christ, but their own bellyes, and counts gain godlinesse*. Now let all people *search* and *read* who these are, and whether these be the *true Prophets*, or *the false*? and whether these have not *been*, and yet are, *in* the time of *Apostacy*? for all *Christendom* (as its called) have had the *Scriptures*, and professed *Christ* from the Declaration thereof, and not from the *Spirit of Truth in themselves*, but because they have heard that there was such a *Man* which dyed at *Jerusalem*, and that there were such men after him as the *Apostles* were; and they having their *words* and *writings* upon record, do make these a *sufficient Testimony* for them of their knowledge and worship of God, and so *preach* & *teach*, and takes Texts out of these words, and adds thereunto their own *Inventions*, and so feeds *poor ignorant* people with these; and here hath been the Worship that hath been upon the face of the Earth all the time of the *dark night* of Apostacy since the Apostles dayes. Now let any honest reasonable heart judge whether this can be a *sure ground* and *true testimony* for people, to trust their souls under *such* for teaching? for it was not *Christ* nor the *Apostles* practice to take others Records & Writings that had been spoken from others; *but they spoke as the spirit gave them utterance*, and *as the holy Ghost taught them, not with wisdom of words, but in the demonstration of*

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the ſpirit and of power. Yet they will bring a *Scripture*, and ſay Chriſt took a Text when he ſpake of *Eſaiah's Propheſie*, where he ſaid *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me*, & *he hath annointed me to preach, and to open the blind eyes*, and *to preach liberty to the Captives; and when he had read theſe words, he cloſed the Book, and ſaid, This day this Scripture is fulfilled in your ears*, for it was *he* that the *Prophet* ſpoke of, who is the *Annointing*, and the *Annointed*, *to preach glad tydings to the poor, and liberty to the captive*, and to the *opening of the blind eyes*; but theſe *blind Leaders* leads the *blind*, but doth not open *their eyes*, though they can make the *Scripture* a *covering* for their *falſe Worſhip*; for let any one prove and try the *Teachers themſelves*, and they are as *blind*, and as *ignorant* of their own ſouls, and as *far* from having a *true teſtimony* of *aſſurance* of their own *ſalvation*, as *thoſe* they ſpeak to, or pretend *to teach*: Now let people conſider *this*, and ſeriouſly *lay it to heart*, and beware how they truſt *their ſouls* under ſuch *Teachers* and *teaching*, who have no *other*, nor *better* Teſtimony then *Records without them*, which were given forth from the *ſpirit* of *God* in others; which ſpirit is *Eternal* and *Infallible*, which theſe Teachers of the World cannot *in truth* confeſs, but muſt (if they confeſs truth) *utterly deny* that they have any ſuch *ſpirit*, as many of them have done already. How can theſe *be true Teachers* of people in the *way of truth*, which have not the *ſpirit of truth*? for if it be not an *infallible ſpirit*, it is a *lying ſpirit*, and not the *ſpirit of Truth*. Now let people ſeriouſly *conſider* what they venture their ſouls upon; for it is not a *deceitful lying ſpirit* that will feed the ſoul, it's the *ſpirit of life* and *truth* that nouriſheth the ſoul, and leads into all truth. Now here is the chief difference betwixt *them* and *us*, They have the *words* and *declaration* of *Chriſt* and the *Apoſtles*, declared from the *ſpirit* of *life*; and we have the *ſpirit* which theſe *words* words were *declared from*, not *another*, but the *ſame eternal Spirit* which they had, do we *witneſs*, and bear *our Teſtimony* of, the ſame *Chriſt* (and not of *another*) *which witneſſed a good confeſſion before Pontius Pilate*, and *was crucified upon the croſs at Ieruſalem*; This *Chriſt* which all the *Chriſtians* in *Chriſtendom* profeſs in *words*, do we bear *teſtimony* of in the *ſpirit* of *life* and *power*, according to the Scriptures.

Obj. But it may be objected and said, *How came you to this Spirit, seeing that you say, that darkneſſe and Apoſtacy hath been over the face of the Earth ſince the dayes of the Apoſtles, and that all Worſhips and Profeſſions have been but from the Letter of the Scriptures without them; this is but an upſtart Religion, how is it that you are attained to this that none are attained to in ſo many hundred years before? And are you wiſer then all our fore-fathers? What is become of all that is gone before?*

Anſ. This *Objection* is againſt the *unlimited Spirit* & *Power* of the *living God*, which did *foreſee* the *Apoſtacy* before it came; & *Chriſt* and the *Apoſtles* did propheſie of it; for the ſame *Objection* might be againſt the Lord when he ſaid unto *Pharaoh*, *I even for the ſame purpoſe have raiſed thee up, that I might ſhew my power in thee, and that my power might be declared throughout all the Earth; therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.* Thou wilt ſay then unto me, *Why doth he yet find fault, who hath reſiſted his will?* Nay, *but oh man! who art thou that replies againſt God? ſhall the thing formed, ſay to him that formed it, Why haſt thou made me thus?* What if God (willing to ſhew his *wrath*, and to make his *power* known, endured with much *long ſuffering*, the Veſſels of *Wrath*, fitted to deſtruction, and that he might make known the *Riches* of *his glory* on the *Veſſels* of *Mercy* which he had before prepared *unto glory*; and this is the very caſe; The *Spirit* of the *Lord* cannot be *limited*, but *limits* all according to the good pleaſure of his will, that he may make his *power* known.

But furthermore, as to our particular, we anſwer, *We received not this Spirit of Man, nor by Man, but by the immediate power and revelation of Ieſus Chriſt, according to the work and operation of it in us*; As the Apoſtle ſaid, *For when it pleaſed the Lord to reveal his Son in the Apoſtle, he conſulted not with fleſh and blood, but went on in obedience unto the Lord*: And ſo the *ſame Spirit* that revealed the *Son* in the *Apoſtle*, revealed him *in us*; for we neither received it *of man*, neither were we taught it *by man*, but by the Revelation of *Ieſus Chriſt*; for *no man* could teach it us, but who had the Revelation of *Ieſus Chriſt*, according as the Apoſtle ſaid to the *Romans*, *If the Spirit of him that raiſed up Ieſus from the dead, dwell in you, he that raiſed up Chriſt from*

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the dead, ſhall alſo quicken your mortal bodies, becauſe that his ſpirit dwelleth in you, Rom. 8.11. And again, *Know ye not that ye are the Temple of God, and that the ſpirit of God dwelleth in you?* 1 *Cor.* 3. 16. Now though theſe *Scriptures* bear *teſtimony* to the truth of this, yet theſe *Scriptures* are not our *teſtimony* only, for we have *our teſtimony* in the ſame *ſpirit* as was *in them* that ſpoke forth the *Scriptures*; and theſe *Scriptures bears teſtimony* with *us*, and *we* to *them*, and ſo are *in unity* with the *ſame Spirit* which gave *them forth.*

And this is *the Hope* that we are to give an *account of* to every one *that asketh* with *meekneſs* & *fear*; for God hath made *known unto us* the *Riches* of the *glory* of this *Myſtery* amongſt the *Gentiles, which was Chriſt in them* (and now in us) *the hope of glory*; and this is the ſame *Chriſt which was offered up at Ieruſalem once for all, through the Eternal ſpirit*; and this is the *HOPE which purifies even as he is pure*; which *HOPE maketh not aſhamed*, but *anchors the Soul upon* the *Rock CHRIST IESUS*; and the *Apoſtles* who had the *Eternal ſpirit*, are our *forefathers*: And this is not an *upſtart Religion* which we *are of*, but a *pure Religion*, and *undefiled before God*, which *keeps* every one *that keeps in it*, *unſpotted* of the world; Yet *this hath been hid from ages and generations paſt, but now is revealed unto us by the ſpirit*; which *ſpirit* people have *erred from* in the time of *Apoſtacy*, and from this *they do erre* at this *very day*, and ſuch counts the *ſpirit within* Hereſie, and goes to *Scriptures* without them, and *traditions* of *men*, and teach *thoſe* for *Doctrine*; and here is the *Reaſon* wherefore this Spirit and Revelation hath *been hid* ſo many *hundred years*, even becauſe people have *been erred* from the *ſpirit* of *God* in *them*, through which the *Revelation* is *manifeſted*, and they have been *erred* in their hearts; therefore the way of God hath not been kuown.

Chriſt ſaid to the *Woman* of *Samaria* when he was on the *Mountain* where *Jacobs Well* was, where the *Jews* uſed to *worſhip*, he ſaid, *They worſhipped they knew not what*; and he alſo ſaid, that *the time was coming that they ſhould not worſhip at Jeruſalem*, (which was a place commanded of God for the Jews to worſhip in) *nor in this Mountain*; and he further teſtified, *That God was a ſpirit, and that they that worſhipped him, muſt worſhip him in*

ſpirit and in truth, ſaying, *The Father was ſeeking ſuch to worſhip him*, for they only are the true Worſhippers of God.

Now I do ask all the *Teachers* and *Profeſſors* in *Chriſtendom*, Where this *ſpirit is*, that God is to be *worſhipped in*, if it be not *in man*? And how *it is*, or *can be* attained *to*, any otherwiſe than *by the light of Chriſt Ieſus with which he hath lighted every man that cometh into the world, in whom is life, and this life is the light of men*? And where *this worſhip* of God *in the ſpirit* is *performed*, if it be not *in man*? And where *Gods Throne is*, (where the ancient of dayes *doth ſit*) if it be not *in man*? And where the *Scepter* of *Chriſt* is *ſwayed*, which is a *righteous Scepter*, if it be not *in Man*? And where the *King* is that *ſhall reign & proſper*, whoſe Name ſhall be called, *The Lord our Righteouſneſs*? And how and where muſt people come to *worſhip God* in the ſpirit, which *denies* the *Light of Chriſt* to be *their Leader* and *Teacher*, and ſay it is *Natural?* and ſome ſay *every one hath it not*; and others ſay, *It is not ſufficient*, and ſo they are all upon *heaps*, and in *confuſion*, who believe not in the Light *which Chriſt Ieſus hath enlightened them withall*, who is the Light of every man; ſo denying the Light, and being erred from it, are in darkneſs until now, and ſtumbles, and knows not whether they go.

Chriſt ſaith, *I am the light of the world, he that followeth me, ſhall not walk in Darkneſs, but ſhall have the Light of life*: And again ſaith he, *While ye have the Light, believe in the Light, that you may be the children of the Light: I am come a Light into the world, that whoſoever believeth in me, ſhall not abide in darkneſs.* Now I do ask any of the Teachers of the World, how any comes to ſee Chriſt any otherwiſe then *by the light* of the body, which he ſaith *is the eye*? ſeeing that he ſaid to the *Jews* who talked with him, and he with them, *They had not heard his voice, nor ſeen his ſhape; for he whom God hath ſent, they believed not.*

This may be the condition of the Prieſts of the World, and Teachers of the Letter, and they ought to own it, *That they have neither heard his voice at any time, nor ſeen his ſhape*; for how ſhould they, when they deny *the light* of Chriſt that is *in them* to be their *Guide* and *Teacher*, which *Chriſt hath lighted*

them

them withall, which is the Key of David, which opens and none shuts, and shuts and none opens? And he told the Jews, *That they did search the Scriptures that did testifie of him, and in which they did think to have eternal life; but* (sayes he) *you will not come to me me that you may have life; I receive not honor from men* (sayes he) *I desire not that you should come to me as to give honour as from men, but that you would come that you might have life*; but *I know you, that you have not the love of God abiding in you*: This he spoke to the Jews, that he said *had not his word abiding in them*, yet they searched the Scriptures, who did not *believe* in him, though he did many *Miracles* amongst them yet they *persecuted* him, and sought to *kill* him, and took up stones to stone him, *who is given for a Covenant to the People, and for a Light to the Gentiles, that he may be the salvation to the ends of the Earth*: And this is the *New* and *Everlasting Covenant*, the promise of God the Father, who hath said, *Is it a light thing that thou should raise up the Tribes unto Iacob, and restore again the preserved of Israel?* with whom the Lord hath said, *I will make a new Covenant, I will write my Law in their hearts, and put my Spirit in their inward parts*; and by this Spirit and Light doth God *teach his People himself*; and all that comes to the leading and teaching of this Spirit, comes to the knowledge of the Lord, which shall cover the Earth, *even as the waters covers the Sea*; and to this Light did the Apostle turn people from the Darkness, and from the Power of Satan unto God. And by the nature of this *Divine Light*, did the Gentiles the things contained in the Law, which shewed the Work of the Law (of the spirit) written in their hearts, *their consciences also bearing witness in the day when God shall judge the secrets of Men by Iesus Christ, according to the Gospel*: And here the Apostle doth justifie the Gentiles, in that he saith, *Not the hearers of the Law are justified, but the doers*; and their uncircumcision, *which did the Law*, he accounted circumcision, and said to the *Jews*, *Shall not their uncircumcision judge your circumcision, which breaks the Law*; & he further saith, *We are of the true circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, and rejoice in Christ Iesus, and have no confidence in the flesh; for he is not a Iew that is one outward, neither is that circumcision which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Iew which is one inwardly*,

ly, and that is circumcision that is of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the Letter, whose praise is not of men, but of God, *Rom.* 2. And this is the seal of the everlasting Covenant, that takes away the foreskin of the heart, and washes away the filth of the flesh; and here the knowledge of the true God is manifested in man, where God shews it unto him, according to the Apostles Doctrine, *Rom.* 1.9.

And when *Paul* came to *Mars-Hill*, and saw the *Athenians* Altar, with the inscription upon it, to the *unknown God*, he said, *God that made the world, and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of Heaven and Earth, he dwelleth not in Temples made with hands, neither is he worshipped with mens hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life and breath, and all things, and hath made of one blood all Nations of men, to dwell on the face of the Earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation, that they should seek the Lord if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us, for in him we live, move, & have our being. Act.* 17.24. Here the Apostle did not lead them out to the Writings and Records of others without them, but he brought them to him *in whom they did live, and move, and had their being*, that so they might *feel after him, and find him*; for he said, *He was not far from every one of them*; and he brought them off the outward Temple which was made with hands, and said to the *Corinthians, Ye are the Temple of the living God, as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them, I will be their God, and they shall be my People; and he that defiles the Temple of God, him will God destroy; for the Temple of God is holy, whose Temple are ye; and what, know ye not that your bodyes are the Temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own, but you are bought with a price; therefore glorifie him in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

Here the Apostle clearly demonstrates, that the bodies of God's People are his Temple, and God is the Spirit that is in them; and this is the *Teacher* and *Preacher*, which the Apostle turns and brings People to, whom he teaches; he told the *Romans that the Righteousness of Faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thy heart who shall ascend, or descend; but what saith it?*

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The word is very nigh thee, in thy mouth and in thy heart, and that is the word of Faith that we preach, saith the Apostle, (mark) *How then* (saith he) *shall ye call on him on whom ye have not believed? And how shall ye believe on him of whom ye not have heard? And how shall ye hear without a preacher? For Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.* And this is the Word which the Apostle preached, *which is nigh, in the heart; which word opens the blind eye, and unstops the deaf ear;* and they cannot hear without this Word of Faith, by hearing of which, Faith comes; and none can hear without this Preacher, who is sent *to bring glad tydings of good things;* but this is not the Preachers of the Letter of the Scriptures without them, for they have preached many hundreds of years, but *the deaf ears are not unstopped yet,* nor *the Blind eyes opened by their Preaching;* and so the Scripture is now fulfilled which the Prophet *Isay* spake of, who saith, *Bring forth the blind People that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears;* And again he saith, *They have Eyes, and see not, Ears, and hear not, hearts, and do not understand* Isa.43.10

And the Lord saith, *I will lay waste Mountains and Hills, and dry up all their Herbs; and I will make their Rivers Islands, and I will dry up the Pools; and I will bring the blind by a way they knew not, and pathes which they have not seen; I will make darkness Light before them, and rough wayes plain, and crooked things streight;* them that comes into this Path and Way, must come from the blind Teachers of the World, who are Leaders of the blind, and keeps people in blindness and ignorance of God, and his Truth, who denyes the Light to be a sufficient Teacher, *which is the Eye of the whole body, & if this Eye be single, the body is full of Light;* But with this eye they do not see, neither can they believe the Truth if it be declared unto them, except they come to the Light that doth manifest it in them. Now the Apostle *Peter* directed those that he wrote to, *to a more sure Word of Propheſie then that which he heard in the Mount,* 2 *Pet.* 1.19. Which voice he did not know that it was within him; and therefore he directed them *to a more sure Word then that was which he heard in the Mount, which Word was a Word of Propheſie,* whereunto he said, *they did well that they took heed, as unto a light that shined in a dark place, until the day dawned, & the day-star arose in their hearts;*

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this teſtimony of Jeſus, the which is the ſpirit of Propheſie: This the Teachers of the World brings to blind people with, & ſaith it the Scripture that the Apoſtle ſpeaks of. Now let any that have but common reaſon judge, whether the Apoſtle was like to ſay, That the Scriptures were a more ſure Word, then the Voice of God that was heard in the Mount, which ſaid, *This is my beloved Son, hear ye him*; and that the Scriptures *ſhould be a light ſhining in a dark place*, and that the Scriptures ſhould be the *day dawning, and the day-ſtar ariſing in the heart*: If people would but look into things, they might ſee their deceivableneſs; for the Apoſtle goes on with theſe words, ſaying, *Knowing this firſt, that no Propheſie of the Scripture is of any private interpretation; for the Propheſie came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God ſpake as they were mov'd by the Holy Ghoſt*. Here the Apoſtle diſſwades them from looking at the Scriptures to be *of any private Interpretation*, or coming by the will of man, which is their whole work, to give their Meanings and Interpretations in their own Wills unto, which is wholly contrary to the Apoſtles Exhortation and Doctrine, who ſaid, *We have not followed cunning deviſed Fables, when we made known unto you the Power and the coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, but were Eye-witneſſes of his Majeſty*. And the Apoſtle *Paul* who was raiſed up by the Power, Spirit, and Voice of the Lord, who ſaid, *Ariſe and ſtand upon thy feet, for I have appeared unto thee for this purpoſe, to make thee a Miniſter and a Witneſs both of theſe things which thou haſt ſeen, and of thoſe things in which I will appear unto thee, delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, to whom I now ſend thee to open the blind eyes, and to turn them from Darkneſs to the* Light, *Act*. 26. And the Apoſtle goeth on bearing his teſtimony, having obtained the help of God, witneſſing both to ſmall and great, ſaying none other thing then that which the Prophets and *Moſes* did ſay ſhould come *that Chriſt ſhould ſuffer, and that he ſhould be the firſt that ſhould riſe from the dead, and ſhould ſhew Light unto the people, and to the Gentiles*. And this was the Witneſs and the Teſtimony which the Apoſtle held forth, who was a Miniſter of God. But theſe Teachers of the World deny and gain-ſays

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this Doctrine; and the Apostle saith, *Therefore seeing we have this Ministry, as we have received Mercy, we faint not, but have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by the Ministration of the Truth, commending our selves to every mans conscience in the sight of God*, 2 Cor. 9. 1. *And if our Gospel be hid, it is hid from them that are lost, in whom the God of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, least the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ, who is the Image of God, should shine unto them:* See here, and behold how the Apostle *recommended himself to every mans conscience in the sight of God*; yet his Gospel *might be hid to them that were lost*, and was from the Light, and would not believe, *which the god of the world had blinded their minds, least the Light should shine unto them*; and so it is the same still, our *Gospel is hid unto such* as believe not in the Light; *For God who commanded the Light to shine out of the darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Jesus Christ*; 2 Cor. 2. 1. 3. 9. And if the Light of Christ shine not in their hearts, our Gospel is hid. And again he saith, *Ye were sometimes darkness, but now you are light in the Lord, walk as Children of the Light; for all things that are reproved, are made manifest by the light*; Wherefore he saith, *Awake thou that sleepest, and stand up, that Christ may give thee light*, Eph. 5. And this is the Message which the Apostle did declare, *That God is light, and in him is no darkness at all; and if we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lye, and do not the truth; but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son, cleanseth us from all sin*, 1 John 1. 5. This is the Message of the Minister of God; and the Apostle gave thanks unto God the Father *which had made them meet to be partakers of the Inheritance with the Saints in light, who had delivered them from the power of darkness, and had translated them into the Kingdom of his dear Son.* This is not a new Doctrine, though it may seem so to many; because this *Mystery* hath been hid, and the Spirit of God which opens this Mystery, erred from, and turned from, by those that have been Teachers of people; and not onely so, but even their Doctrine hath been, and now is, That none must look for, nor

expect *Revelation* nor *Inſpiration* by the Spirit of God; and ſo they do what in them lyes, to ſtop this *Current* of Life and Spirit, which Chriſt Jeſus the *Fountain* of all *life* hath ſet open, who in the laſt day of the Feaſt ſtood up and ſaid, *If any man be a-thirſt, let him come unto me, and drink; He that believeth on me, out of his belly ſhall flow Rivers of living Waters.* And this he ſpake of the Spirit which theſe Teachers of the world would ſtop; the pourings of which Spirit is unlimited to *Son* or *Daughter*, *Jew* or *Gentile*, *Barbarian*, *Scythian*, *Bond*, or *Free*, *Time* or *Place*, or *Condition*, *but according to the good pleaſure of his will, who is the Author and the Fountain of it*; And all that are Miniſters of God, and of the Spirit, it is their joy and deſire that people grow *into the Light of Life*; for they that are in the Light, the day of deſtruction ſhall not overtake them as a Thief, who are Children of the Light, and of the Day; And this is the deſire of all the faithful in Chriſt Jeſus, That they dwell and abide in the Light, where the fellowſhip is one with another, and where the power of God preſerves and keeps from the pollutions of the World, and temptations of Satan; which Power is made manifeſt by the appearing of Jeſus Chriſt, who hath aboliſhed death, and *hath brought Life and Immortality to light through the Goſpel, whoſe Immortality dwells in the Light, where the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb is the Temple*, 2 *Tim.*1.10. And here the City comes to be known *which hath no need of the Sun, nor of the Moon, to ſhine in it, for the glory of God doth lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof, and all the Nations of them that are ſaved ſhall walk in the light of it, and the Kings of the Earth ſhall bring their glory and honor to it, and the glory of the Nations ſhall come unto it, and there ſhall in no wiſe enter into it that which defiles, neither that which worketh abomination, or maketh a lye, but they which are written in the Lambs book of life*, *Rev.*21. This is the great work which the Lord is working in this his Day, and the ſpiritual Building which he is rearing and ſetting up; and he hath put his hand to the work; and when he worketh, who can let it? Who hath reſiſted his Will? Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or been his Counſellor? Or taught him? Of whom took he Councel? Or who inſtructed and taught him knowledge,

ledge, and ſhewed him the way of underſtanding? *Behold, the Nations are but as the drop of a Bucket, & as the ſmall duſt of the Ballance before him: he taketh the Iſles as a very little thing,* Lebanon *is not ſufficient to burn, and the Beaſts thereof for a Burnt-offering; it is he that ſitteth upon the Circle of the Earth, and the Inhabitants thereof are as graſhoppers;* By his Spirit *he will remove the great Mountains of the Earth, and they ſhall become a Plain, and he will bring forth the Head-ſtone, and lay it a top of all; for the ſtone which is cut out of the Mountain without hands, breaks in pieces the Image, and will become a great Mountain, and the Kingdom which ſhall never be deſtroyed, (and ſhall not be left to other people, but will break in pieces, and conſume all Kingdoms) this is ariſing, and the Ancient of Dayes is coming to ſit in Judgement in the Saints of the Moſt High; and the Kingdomes of the world is becoming the Kingdomes of the Lord and of his Chriſt; and the little one ſhall become a thouſand, and the ſmall one a great Nation. Dan 7. chap.* And the Lord of Hoſts will haſten it in his time; ſo it is in vain to ſtand againſt the God of Heaven, or to reſiſt his work which he hath begun in the Earth, which he is working, and will work by his Spirit, in this his day of Power he wil make all his people willing and ſubject to him, *& every knee muſt bow to him, and every tongue confeſs to God; for the firſt Adam was made a living ſoul, but the ſecond is the* Lord *from Heaven, a quickning ſpirit which doth quicken and raiſe up the juſt unto the reſurrection of Life, and he is made manifeſt in his people to deſtroy the works of the Devil,* which he hath wrought in the diſobedient part of man, and ſo brought the firſt *Adam* into the fall, and ſo under the Curſe, that the very Earth is curſed for his ſake; but *Chriſt Jeſus,* which the *Apoſtle ſaw made a little lower then Angels; for the ſuffering of death, through which he hath wrought the Redemption of man Heb. 2. 6.* into a bleſſed, and happy, & perfect condition; Though the Prieſts and Teachers of the World makes it their Work to deſtroy this Work of Redemption of the Son of God, *who redeems ont of ſin and all evil, and from a vain Converſation, to ſerve the living God in newneſs of ſpirit, and not in the oldneſs of the letter, which redeems from the Earth, and from the pollutions of the world, and from all unrighteouſneſs, all thoſe that believe on him, and truſt in him, and obey him, and wait for him, unto them ſhall he come the ſecond time without ſin unto ſal-*

vation; but this is a Myſtery, which cannot be believed, by the dark and ignorant ſinning and tranſgreſſing Miniſtry and Profeſſors of the Nations, which lyes wallowing in their ſins and uncleanneſs, *and drink up iniquity as the Ox drinketh Water*; theſe that are filling up their meaſure of iniquity, and are wholly covered with the power of darkneſs, theſe cannot ſee how it is poſſible that ever any ſhould get out of this ſtate and condition, being that they are quite ignorant of their Redeemer living in them, and ſo goes about to perſwade all people of an impoſſibility of being freed from ſin, but that they muſt ſin all the dayes of their lives, and ſo keeps people in the fall, in the tranſgreſſion, under the curſe, & death is the reward of ſin; and ſo theſe Miniſters are the Miniſters of death: But Chriſt Jeſus redeems from under the Curſe, and from under the Bondage of ſin and corruption, which all the Creation hath long groaned under, & waits for the bleſſed liberty of the Sons and Children of God, *Glory & honour be unto his holy Name for ever, who hath ſent his only begotten Son in the likeneſs of ſinful fleſh, and for ſin, condemned ſin the fleſh; for as by one man's diſobedience many were made ſinners, ſo by the obedience of one, ſhall many be made righteous*: But this the diſobedient will never know, who turns from, and diſobeys the one that ſhould make them righteous: And here are all the Prieſts and Teachers, and Profeſſors of the world, in the diſobedience, erred from the Spirit, in the Tranſgreſſion, and in the ſin; and ſo teaching all people to be ſinners, as they can do no otherwiſe, who are not Miniſters of the Light of Chriſt, nor turns not people to the Light of Chriſt, in whom is no ſin, who hath ſaid, *Except a man be born again of water and of the ſpirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God*. Now that which is born of the Spirit, is Spirit, and this enters the Kingdom; *For it is the ſpirit that quickens, the fleſh profiteth nothing; The words that I ſpeak unto you*, (ſaith Chriſt) *they are ſpirit, and they are life*; but there were ſome that believed not: Now thoſe that deny the Light of the Spirit of Life, they know little of the pourings forth of the Spirit, or of the Manifeſtation of the Spirit of God, which he hath given to every one to profit withall; but the Miniſters of the Letter, and of darkneſſe,

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which have erred from the Spirit, and endeavours to keep all people back from the teaching, and leading, and guiding of the Spirit, they do not profit with it, but hides their talent in the Earth, and counts the Lord a hard Master; therefore he must needs take it from them, and give it unto those that have profited with it; this is witnessed, and manifested, and seen with those that have eyes in this day; *The Apostles spake as the Spirit gave them utterance*, and their preaching was *not with the enticing words of mans wisdom, but in the power and demonstration of the Spirit, not according to the wisdom of the world; but he spake the wisdom of God in a Mystery, even the hidden wisdom which God had revealed unto him by his Spirit, which Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God.* Therefore its good for every one to have a true Testimony of this Eternal Spirit: *which believes not every Spirit, but tryes them, whether they be of God, and proves all things, and holds fast that which is good*; and he that layes his Foundation here, he builds not his House *on* the *Sand*, but on the *Rock*, *on which the whole Church is built, which is in God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and Pillar and Ground of Truth; And when the wind blows, the storms and the Tempests beats, this House will stand; for they that are joyned to the Lord, are one Spirit with him, and of one heart and soul*; if they were ten thousand, they are all one, and all of one, who are begotten, and born, and brought forth, and sanctified by one Spirit; and here is the Mystery of the fellowship of the Gospel, *which is in the unity of the Spirit, which is the bond of peace.*

And this is not a shaddow, nor a vanishing fading thing; but this is a substance that proceeds from the living God, and returns unto him; by which Spirit he is made known unto the sons of men, and by which spirit he works and creates in Christ Jesus unto Righteousness and true Holiness; *For by one Spirit we are all baptized into one Body, who have been made to drink all into one Spirit, whether Jews or Gentiles, Bond or Free*; if they come into this Spirit which makes, and unites, and knits together, they are all one; *for the body is not one member, but many*; but they that denies this Spirit, and the teaching thereof, are not of this body, nor do not drink of this Cup of the New-Testament; but they are drinking of the Cup

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of Fornication and Idolatry; for the Apoſtle ſaid, *They could not ſit at the Lords Table, and the Table of Devils; and they could not drink the Cup of the Lord, and the Cup of Devils*; and ſo they that drink not of the Cup of the Spirit [*new*] in the Kingdom, let them read in their own boſomes what they are drinking of.

The Apoſtle ſaid, That the *Corinthians* were manifeſtly declared *to be the Epiſtle of Chriſt miniſtred by him; written not with Ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in Tables of ſtone, but in the fleſhly Tables of the heart.* Here is the Miniſtration manifeſted by them that are Miniſters of the Spirit of the living God, who reach unto that of God in the hearts of people; and the ſame Spirit in people anſwers to *the annointing which is in them, which they received, even the Unction of the holy One*; and ſuch *need not that any man ſhould teach them, but as the ſame annointing teacheth them, which is truth, and no lye*, 1 Joh. 2. 27. But this is not the Miniſtration of the Letter, but of the Spirit; *for the Letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life*, 2 *Cor.* 3. For the Apoſtle was made an able Miniſter of the New Teſtament, whoſe Miniſtration was more glorious then the Law, which was written in Tables of ſtone; and he ſaith, *The Lord is the Spirit*, which Spirit is *written in the fleſhly Tables of the heart, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty, and all that are the Sons of God, are led and guided by the Spirit of God*, Rom. 8. According to the Apoſtles words, who ſaid, *Becauſe ye are ſons, God hath ſent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying Abba, Father*, Gal. 4. 6. *And we through the Spirit, wait for the hope of Righteouſneſs by Faith: and who walks and abides in the Spirit, doth not fulfil the luſts of the fleſh; for the fleſh luſteth againſt the Spirit, and the Spirit againſt the fleſh, and theſe are contrary the one to the other*, Gal. 5. 5. And this is the Teacher, Leader and Guider of God's People, *who are called to be Saints, & ſanctified in Chriſt Jeſus, through the obedience of the Spirit which ſubdues, & brings down, & ſubjecteth under in man and woman, that which is contrary*; it working and operating in the inward man, and putting on, and adorning the *heart with a meek, and with a quiet Spirit, which is with the Lord of great price*: This is precious in the ſight of the Lord, when the Spirit beautifies with ſalvation, and ſanctifies the heart

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to the Lord by its powerful working, here the Lord is glorified in his Saints; and this eternal Spirit, and Substance, and Word, *which is quick and powerful, sharper then any two-edged Sword, which separates betwixt the precious and the vile, betwixt the holy and profane, piercing to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joynts and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart*, Heb. 4. 12. This is the sure Teacher that layeth *a true Foundation*, on which the Prophets and Apostles are built, *the Corner-stone, which all the wise Builders have disallowed and set at nought, which is now become the Head of our Corner; glory & honor be to the Highest for ever*, according to Christs words, who saith, *Did you not read in the Scripture, The Stone which all the Builders rejected and set at nought, the same is become the Head of the Corner; this is the Lords doings, and is marvelous in our eyes; and whosoever shall fall on this stone, shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder*, Matth. 21. 42, 49. And *Peter* saith, *That it is contained in the Scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief Corner-stone, elect and precious, and he that believeth on him, shall not be confounded; unto you therefore which believe, he is precious; but unto them who are disobedient, the Stone which the Builders disallowed, the same is made the Head of the Corner, and stone of stumbling, and a Rock of offence*, even to them that stumble at the Word, being disobedient; this is the Stone and Word that all the disobedient stumbles at; *Jews* and *Gentiles* that will not come to the Light which Christ Jesus (who is the light of men) hath enlightened them withall; the obedience of the Light of Christ Jesus, is the obedience to the Cross of Christ, the preaching of which (the Apostle saith) it was to the *Jews a stumbling-block, and to the Greeks foolishness; but unto all, both Jews and Greeks, it is Christ the Power of God, and the wisdom of God*, 1 Cor. 1. The Light and the Power of God, is the Cross of Christ; this the Apostle did not preach with the wisdom of Words, *least the Crosse of Christ should become of none effect*, which is unto all that are saved, the Power of God; and he saith, *After that in the wisdom of God, the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of Preaching, to save them that believe*: This is the wisdom of God, and the Way of God, not to teach people by

Isa. 28 16 Psal. 118. 22. 1 Pet. 2. 6, 7 8.

that

that which man's Wisdom teacheth; and that which man's dark heart invents and imagines, & studies out of his brain, but by that which the Holy Ghost teacheth in this his day in which he is risen in his Eternal *Spirit*; and they that can believe in this foolishness of preaching, are saved; and they that *cannot believe*, to them this *Gospel* is hid, because that the foolishness of God is wiser then men, and the weakness of God is stronger then men, who hath said, *I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nought the understanding of the prudent; for God hath chosen the foolish things of the world, to confound the things that are mighty, that no flesh might glory in his presence, but in him*: This is the Will, and Way, and Work of the Lord, by which he teacheth his people, and so *they have access by one Spirit unto God the Father*, *Jews* and *Gentiles*, *Barbarians*, *Scithians*, *Bond* and *Free*. if they come unto Christ Jesus the Light and Life, and everlasting Covenant, *which is given to be the salvation unto the ends of the Earth, which was offered up by the Eternal Spirit once for all. Eph.* 2.18.

All people which comes unto this Eternal Spirit which is *in them*, of what sort soever, if they come to this Light, Covenant, and Spirit, they are all one in *Christ Jesus*, *and if they be Christs, then are they Abrahams Seeds, and Heirs according to promise*. All that doth endeavour to keep the Unity in the Spirit, and Bond of Peace, is strengthened by this Spirit in the Inner-man; & the eyes of their Understanding comes to be enlightened, & they do come to comprehend with all Saints, the heigth, and the breadth, and the depth of the love of God, which passeth knowledge, and is a mystery to the wise *Rabbies* of the World, and all the disobedient ones, that will not stoop to the Light of *Christ*, and his Power & cross in them, but will live in the liberty of the flesh, where they may exercise their fleshly liberty, Pride and Ambition, Superfluity of Naughtiness, vain Glory and *Arrogancy*, Voluptuousness, Pomp and Vanity of the World, all which are of the first man, fallen from God, and is of the Earth, earthly, which the cross of *Christ*, which is the power of God is to crucifie the affections and the lusts thereof, the World, and the flesh, and the Devil, who is obedient and faithful to the

Witness

Witneſs and Teſtimony of the living God *in them*, and to its *Guiding*, and *Leading*, and *Teaching*; puts off the old man and his deeds, and puts on the *new man*, *Chriſt Jeſus*, *who is created after God in righteouſneſs and true holineſs*, *and ſo comes to be renewed in the ſpirit of their minds*, *and to have their conſciences cleanſed*, *and their bodies waſhed with pure water*, *Eph.* 5. And ſo they bring forth the fruits of the ſpirit, which are *in all goodneſs*, *righteouſneſs*, *and truth*, yea, *joy*, *love*, *peace*, *long ſuffering*, *gentleneſs*, *faith*, *meekneſs*, *and temperance*; And againſt ſuch *there is no Law*; who are in this ſtate, *keeps the Law*, and *breaks it not*, and are *in the Love*, which *fulfils it*, and one with the *Juſtice*, *Equity*, and *Righteouſneſs* of it, *which was added becauſe of tranſgreſſion*: *And where there is no tranſgreſſion*, *there is no need of a Law*, *nor the Law is not againſt ſuch.*

But we finde little of thoſe fruits of the Spirit in the World (which cannot receive the Spirit of Truth) amongſt all *Profeſſors*, *Prieſts* and *Teachers* thereof; this is the Mark which Chriſt hath ſet us to try the falſe Prophets by; he ſaith, *By their fruits ſhall you know them*, who gets the *ſheeps clothing*, (the Scriptures) *but inwardly are ravening wolves*: We have found the *Prieſts*, *Profeſſors* and *Teachers* of theſe Nations, to miniſter *Perſecution* and *Cruelty* to us, as the *Priſons* and *Goals* of theſe Nations may bear (and have born) *teſtimony*. And another Mark that Chriſt gave of the falſe Prophets to know them by, was, *when all men ſhould ſpeak well of them*, *for ſo did their Fathers of the falſe Prophets*: Now let all people judge, whether this be not the condition of the *Prieſts* and *Teachers* at this day; *for they bear rule by their means*, *and yet the people love to have it ſo*; *but what will they do in the end thereof*, *when God comes with his overflowing ſcourge*, *and breaks the Covenant with Death*, *and the agreement with Hell*, *and ſweep away the Refuge of Lyes? Matth.* 7. Which many hundreds of years have bin their ſtrength; but God is coming to overturn them, & to confound them, & to cut down the fruitleſs trees that brings not forth good fruit, and doth manifeſt that the evil Tree cannot bring forth good fruit; *for men do not gather Grapes of Thorns*, *nor Figs of Thiſtles*; for the beſt of them have been but as a *Bryar*, & the moſt upright of them as a *Thorn-*

Hedge, as many will come to see when their eyes comes to be opened; and they shall be as *a bowed wall*, and as *a tottering fence*, *Psal.*62. Let but the honest and the godly hearted judge betwixt them and us, whether their fruits are not the fruits of the flesh, which the Apostle saith (*Gal.*5.17.) are these, *Adultery*, *Fornication*, *Uncleanness*, *Lasciviousness*, *Idolatry*, *Witchcraft*, *Hatred*, *Variance*, *Emulation*, *Wrath*, *Strife*, *Seditions*, *Heresies*, *Envyings*, *Murthers*, *Drunkenness*, *Revilings*, *Inordinate affections*, *evil Concupiscence*, *Covetousness which is Idolatry*, *Anger*, *Malice*, *Blasphemy*, *filthy Communication*, *Effeminateness*, *and abusers of themselves with mankind*, *Revellings*, *Banquetings*, *Excesse of Wine*, and *abominable Idolaters*, *Filthiness*, *foolish jesting and talking which is not convenient*, *Col.*3.8. 1 *Cor.*6.9. And let the upright judge, whether they be not *lovers of themselves*, *covetous boasters*, *proud blasphemers*, *unthankful*, *unholy*, *disobedient to Parents*, *without natural affection*, *truce-breakers*, *false Accusers*, *Incontinent*, *fierce despisers of them that are good*, *heady*, *high-minded*, *lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God*, *having a form of godliness*, *but denying the Power*, *and from such* (the Apostle exhorts the people to) *turn away*, 2 *Tim.*1.3.

Now the *Reader* may judge it to be harsh, or censoriousness in charging all these fruits of the flesh upon the *Teachers* and *Ministers* of the World, many of which they would seem to evade; but this I say further for the Information of the *Reader*, that they are *Ministers* of *Darkness*, and not *Ministers* of the *Light*, but denyes the *Light*, both to *Minister from*, and to *Minister to*; which the Ministers of God were *Ministers* of the *Light*, and the Message that they brought, was, *That God was Light*, *and in him was no darkness at all*, 1 Joh.1 1. And *Paul was made an able Minister of the New-Testament*, *not of the Letter*, *but of the Spirit*; and he *turned People from the darkness to the light*, *and from the power of Satan unto God*, *who is light*, in which *whosoever walks*, *the blood of Jesus Christ his Son*, *cleanseth him from all sin*. Now these *Ministers* & *Teachers* of the World, whose *Ministry* stands in the *darkness* where all sin is committed, and all the fruits of the flesh acted, these cannot clear themselves from none of the things before mentioned, for they stand in that ground which brings forth the

fruits

fruits of the flesh; and therefore is their Doctrine altogether *for sin*, and *against perfection* and *cleansing*, and *preacheth frequently* that none can *be free from sin while they are upon the Earth*; for they are guilty in their hearts and consciences, that they sin continually, & so with their blind dark minds they can never see that any can be cleansed or redeemed from sin, which is wholly contrary to the *Apostles Doctrine*, who saith, *That Christ was manifest to take away sin, whosoever abideth in him, sinneth not; whosoever sinneth, hath not seen him, neither known him; he that committeth sin, is of the Devil; whosoever is born of God, doth not commit sin, for his Seed remaineth in him, and he cannot sin, because he is born of God*; in this is *the children of God manifest, and the children of the Devil*, 1 *Joh.* 3. And now *Reader*, do but in soberness weigh those things according to the truth of the Scriptures, & this will take away the prejudice, & remove the Objection which might arise in thy mind concerning the fruits of the flesh applyed to the *Teachers* and *Professors*.

And all that desires after godliness, & the Truth as it is *in Jesus*, they must turn from them that hath the *Form*, & denies the *Power*, who brings forth the fruits before-mentioned; *for as many as receives Christ Jesus*, (the Light) *to them he gives power to become the Sons of God*. It is the word of his Power by which all things were created, by which he upholds all things; and it is his power that brings his Seed out of Bondage, & out of the house of darkness: And the *Gospel* of our *Lord Iesus Christ*, which the *Apostle* was not ashamed of to preach, *is the power of God unto salvation, unto every one that believes, to the Jew first, & also to the Greek*; *and this Treasure the Apostle had in an earthen vessel, that the excellency of the Power might be of God*: And here was the Apostles Doctrine established, in the mighty power of God, *whereof* (saith he) *I was made a Minister according to the gift of the Grace of God given unto me, by the effectual working of his Power, that so he might know the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings*: but this is a *Mystery*, and unknown to the *Teachers* & *Ministers* of the *letter*, who are in *forms* & *appearances*, without the *Power*, & in the ordinations of *men*, & receives their approbation *from men* & are made *Ministers* by *men*, these deny and resist the *Power* & *Spirit* the *Apostles* were made *Ministers* of, & even denies *immediate Revelation*, & saith *it is ceased*, & so denies the

gift of Gods grace *which hath appeared unto all men, to teach the denying of ungodliness & all worldly lusts, & teacheth* (all that doth obey it, & follow it) *to live godly, righteously, & soberly in this present evil world.* And so those *Teachers* endeavours to *limit* the spirit of the living God to *Times* & *Persons*, which cannot be *limited*; and saith, we must not look for it *now*, as in the *Apostles time*; we must look to the *Scripture*, & not to the *Spirit* for Revelation; & so *blasphemes* the God of Heaven, & *gainsays* his Truth, & the *revelation* of the Son of God, who said, *The Father was a Spirit, & they that worship him, must worship him in spirit & in truth, & he was seeking for such worshippers to worship him*; & who hath said, *There is none that knows the Son but the Father, neither doth any man know the Father save the Son, and he to whom the Son reveals him.*

And so these *Teachers* that *denies Revelation*, & the *Spirits teaching*, doth not desire that the *Son* should be known by the *Fathers drawing*; *for there is none that can come to the Son, except the Father draw him*; neither is it possible for them to bring people to the knowledg of the *Father* who denies *Revelation*, being *there is none that knows the Father save the Son, & he to whom the Son reveals him*; so the infinite mercy & wisdom of the Lord God hath hid these things from them, & hath revealed them unto the *faithful* & *obedient*, who walks in his *Light*, & keeps in it, where the *revelation* is manifested; & so *Christ Jesus* saw great cause of *thanking* the *Father*, the *Lord of Heaven and Earth, that he had hid those things from the wise & prudent, & had revealed them unto Babes*, children of the *Light*, which were begotten into the *Light*, & were *translated* into it, & made one with it, & abode in the *Annointing* which they received in the beginning, *they had fellowship with the Son & with the Father*; *he that believes on the Son, hath everlasting life; he that believeth not on the Son, shall not see life*; *for the Father loveth the Son, & sheweth him all things that he doth*; For as the *Father* raiseth up the dead, & quickneth them, even so the *Son* quickneth whom he will; & who believes in the *Light*, and walks in the light of the Son of God, is quickned by him, & hath the *Father* revealed to him, not in *Parables*, but he doth shew him plainly of the *Father*; for he hath committed *all judgment* to the *Son*, that all men might honor the *Son*, as they honor the *Father*; he that *honoreth* not the *Son*, honoreth not the *Father* that hath sent him; he that believeth not *in the light of the Son*

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of God, he honoreth not the *Son*; & he whose mind is not turned *unto the Light* of God *in him*, he knows not the *Son*, nor *him* that *sent him*; Jesus cryed and said, *He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me; he that seeth me, seeth him that sent me. I am come a Light into the World, that whosoever believeth on me, should not abide in darkness*: Mark here now, Christ's Words; He that sees him *to be the light come into the world*, sees him *that sent him*; & he that believes in Christ *that is come a light into the world*, believes *on him* that *sent him*; and he that believes on Christ Jesus *who is come a Light into the world*, abides not *in the darkness, but hath the Light of life*; this is the great Work of God that every one believe on him that God hath sent; & he that believeth on him, *hath the witness and testimony of him in himself*; & he that knows not that *Christ* is *in him*, is a *Reprobate*; *And this is the will of him that sent me* (saith Christ) *that every one that seeth the Son, may have everlasting life, & I will raise him up at the last Day*: This is the portion and reward which the true believers receive from him *who is the resurrection and the life, he that believes on him, though he was dead, yet shall he live, and he that lives and believes, shall never dye*; (*He that can receive it, let him.*) This was a *Mystery* unto *Martha*: Jesus saith, *No man can come unto me except the Father (which hath sent me) draw him*; *It is written in the Prophets* (saith he) *They shall be all taught of God; every man therefore, that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.* So here now every one whose eye is single, may see, *that none can come* but *whom the Father draws*, and they that are *taught of God*, comes to the *Son, which he hath given a light into the world*; and this is the *WAY*, the *TRUTH*, and the *LIFE*; & no man comes to the *Father* but by *him*; And in no *other way*, nor by no *other Name* under Heaven *shall any one be saved*, but *by him, and he is able to save to the utmost all those that comes unto God by him, and no other Foundation can any man lay, then this which is already laid*; but let every one take heed how he builds thereon; & he which *preacheth another Gospel, let him be accurst*; For this is the *Rock* and *Foundation* on which the whole *Church* is built, *CHRIST IESUS* the *LIGHT*, and precious Stone, which *Iews* & *Gentiles* that are saved, are built on; for he is their Peace *who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of Partition which was between, for through him we have doth an access to the Father, & are built upon*

on the Foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, JESUS CHRIST himself being the chief Corner-stone, in whom all the Building fitly framed together, groweth unto a holy people in the Lord, who are builded together for an habitation of God, through the spirit; Here is the great Work of the Mystery of God, which he is working in this his day, *whose Tabernacle is with men*, and the Most High dwells in *the Kingdoms of men*, he whose delight is with the sons of men, is arisen, and wisdom lifteth up her voice, and cries, *Oh ye* simple ones, *understand wisdom; & ye* fools, *be of an understanding heart; unto you*, O men, *I call, and my voice is to the* Sons of men.

CHRIST JESUS is coming *to reign, & the Scepter of his righteousness which is a right Scepter, will he sway the Nations with; & those his enemies that will not that he should reign, must even be broke, and bound, and slain before him;* therefore it is good for all people to hear his voice, and to turn at his reproof, and to hearken diligently to *the Word that is nigh in the heart*, & to encline *their ears* that *their souls* might *live*; there is a Word that saith, *This is the way*; which way is for the wayfaring man; *This TEACHER will never more be removed into a corner; but their eyes must see their Teacher*; this *WAY* which hath long been *hid* and *hedged* up, Now hath the Lord *opened* and made manifest in this *his Day*, and the *Law* and the *Testimony* which was sealed among the *Disciples, is now opened*, and the Word that speaks according to the Light *is now revealed*, & the Light is shining in the consciences of men, and they that are children of the Light, and of the Day, walks in it, *and it shines in their hearts, and gives them the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, the expres Image of the Invisible God, the first-born of every creature*; And this *cleanseth* and *purgeth the conscience from dead works, to serve the living God*; & in this every one may draw near in full assurance of Faith, *having their hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and their bodies washed with pure water*; but it was impossible that the *blood of Buls* and *Goats* should *take away sin*; but this man *after he had offered one sacrifice for sin, sate down at the right hand of God, expecting till his enemies be made his footstool*; Which the *high Priests* that went before him, were daily offring the same Sacrifice which could never *take away sin*, nor *make perfect as appertaining to the conscience*; yet *by one offering, Christ Jesus the everlasting High Priest, hath*

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perfected for ever them that are sanctified; this is he that doth the will, who said, *In the volume of thy Book it is written of me, Lo I come to do thy will, O God*; by which Wil we are sanctified, whereof the Holy Ghost is a witness to us; for after that he said before, *This is the Covenant that I wil make with them, After these days* (saith the Lord) *I will put my Law in their hearts, and in their minds, I will write them*; Here the *Apostle* witnesseth the *Holy Ghost* to be the *Witness* & *Testimony* of Gods truth in the *promise* of the *new Covenant* of the *Law* written *in the heart*, & of the *spirit* putting in *the inward parts*; Now these that denies *the spirit* of God which gives testimony and witness of his everlasting Covenant, are strangers *to this life*, & *Aliens* to the *Common wealth* of *Israel*; for the Covenant of Promise is to the *elect* Seed of *Abraham*; not of the *Bond-woman*, but of the *Free*; not of the *SEEDS*, which are *many*, but of *ONE*, which is *CHRIST*, *that is Elect according to the fore-knowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience, & sprinkling of the blood of Christ, who doth purifie their souls in obeying the Truth, through the Spirit*; For this cause is the Gospel preached, that they may be judg'd according *to men* in the *flesh*, but live according *to God* in the *Spirit*; this is the chief *end* of the *Ministry* of the *GOSPEL, which is GLAD-TYDINGS to the Poor, LIBERTY to the Captive, but JUDGEMENT to him that hath captivated the Seed*, till *that* be *dead* which hath held the Seed *in bondage*; and until the *enmity* be *slain*, and the *middle wall* of Partition *taken away*, and of *twain*, made *one new man*; this is the *Ministration* of the *everlasting Gospel*; for Christ also hath once suffered, being put to death *in the flesh*, but quickned *in the Spirit*, by which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; & he that is annointed *to preach glad tydings to the poor, and liberty to the Captives, is now preaching to the Spirits in prison, & binding up the broken hearted*, and raising up them *that are fallen*; and he is *enlightning* the *blind eyes*, and *unstopping* the *deaf ears*, & *opening the Prison-doors*, and *bringing the Prisoners forth of the Prison-houses, so that the Prisoners of hope doth rejoice, that have been in the pit which is without water*; For Christ calls, *Come unto me every one that is weary and heavy laden, & they shall find rest for their souls*, who will take his *yoake* upon them, *which is easie*, & *his burthen*, which *is light*, to the *obedient*, and to the *faithful*, which are subjected *unto him*, & *waits* for *him*, they that *love him*, and keep *his*

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Commandments, who saith, *He that hath my Commandments, & keepeth them, he it is that loveth me; & he that loveth me, shall be loved of my Father, & I will love him, & will manifest my self unto him*: Here is an Infinite reward, which wil even satisfie the *Eternal* & *Immortal soul*, which nothing *can satisfie* but *the living God*, who saith, *If any love me, & keep my words, my Father will love him and we shall come unto him, & make our abode with him*; Here the *COMFORTER*, which is the *Holy Ghost*, which proceeds from the *Father* & the *Son*, is manifested, *which doth teach all things, & brings all thinge to remembrance*; & this is *the Inheritance which the Saints in Light are made partakers of*, even *the spirit of Truth* which the world *cannot receive*, which leads *into all truth all them* which *do obey* and *follow* the *leading*, & *guiding*, & *teaching* of it: The *Apostle* desired that *Timothy* might know *how he ought to behave himself in the house of God*, which *is the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of Truth*; *And without controversie* (saith he) *great is the Mystery of godlineß, GOD MANIFEST IN THE FLESH, justified in the spirit, seen of Angels, &c.* This *mystery* I have endeavoured in part to open, according to the *Scriptures*: And if any come to the *Key of DAVID* which opens this *mystery*, they will see the *Truth* of it, and seal to it in that measure of the Spirit which God hath given to every one to profit withall; *For unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will; and he that is faithful in the little, is made Ruler over much*: And so this is the *WAY*, the *TRUTH*, and the *LIFE*; and every one that doth set at nought this, and resist this, let *his blood* be upon *his own head*.

Now let the *Reader* by what is here written, seriously search, examine, and try by the Scriptures, and the measure of the Spirit of God in him, who are the *true Prophets*, and the *false*; and who are the *true Teachers*, and who are the *false*, and what is the true Worship of God, and the false; And let him venture his soul, as he dare answer before a *just* & *Righteous God*.

From a true Lover of the souls of all people, and who desires the good of all, and that all might come to the knowledge of the Truth. M. F.

THE END.